

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 856

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to commend Jean Pollard for her honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Jean Pollard is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, throughout her exemplary tenure as an office manager and writer for the *Morgan County News*, Ms. Pollard has distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to her community; and

WHEREAS, on December 8, 1934, Jean Pollard was born in Paden, Mississippi, to Zena Pearl Yarber and James Arthur Ramage, who instilled in her the value of hard work and service to others; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Pollard's family moved to Oak Ridge around 1944, and she graduated from Harriman High School several years later; and

WHEREAS, on December 21, 1952, Jean Pollard was joined in marriage with Merley Dean Hamby, and the loving couple treasured twenty-three years together until Reverend Hamby's passing; the couple's blessed union produced two children, Debra Joy and Phillip Ross; and

WHEREAS, when Reverend Hamby answered the divine call of ministry, Ms. Pollard served as his pastoral partner with dedication, vigor, and enthusiasm to perform God's work for their congregations and communities; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, Ms. Pollard found true love again, enjoying the loving bonds of matrimony with Clifford Earl Pollard for thirteen years before he went on to his great reward; and

WHEREAS, encouraging all children to achieve their maximum potential, Ms. Pollard has served as a substitute teacher for Morgan County Schools and watched over many youngsters in her home; and

WHEREAS, Jean Pollard cultivated a reputation for the utmost professionalism through her work in various plants throughout Roane County, including Roane Hosiery, Roane Manufacturing Company, and Betatech, and she also rendered impeccable service in the office of Norris Creamery; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, Ms. Pollard joined the staff of *Morgan County News*, and with her extraordinary organizational abilities and consummate character, has tirelessly contributed a vast amount of knowledge and experience to the office; and

WHEREAS, a noted columnist and genealogical researcher, Jean Pollard has long heard the call of Tennessee's past, and through her column, "Sharing the Past," this local writer regularly reveals the history of Morgan County and its resident with the readers of the *Morgan County News*; boasting a copious amount of readers, "Sharing the Past" has become one of the most widely read and acknowledged parts of the paper each week; and

WHEREAS, although she technically retired ten years ago, Ms. Pollard continues working diligently two days each week because of her passion for preserving Morgan County's heritage; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that the fabric of Tennessee history is a rich tapestry of dates, places, people and events, Ms. Pollard honors those who went before and acknowledges their contributions through her work in numerous organizations, including serving as the Chairman of the Morgan County Bicentennial Committee and Morgan County Heritage Book Committee, member of the Morgan County Genealogical Society, and Morgan County Historian; and

WHEREAS, she also devotes her time and tremendous talents as a member of the Morgan County Economic Development Board; and

WHEREAS, this extraordinary woman expresses her devout Christian faith as a 50-year charter member of the Grace Baptist Church, where she has faithfully served her Lord as a Sunday school teacher, treasurer, choir member, and leader of the women's study group; and

WHEREAS, her many accomplishments aside, Ms. Pollard is most grateful of the love

and companionship she shares with her family; she is the proud grandmother of Wendy Beth Hampton Mullins, Amanda Jean Hampton Strayer, Bethanie Rae Hampton Gibson, and Emma Grace Hamby, and is the doting great-grandmother of Gabriel Logan Thomas, Christian Tyler Strayer, and Blake Eugene Gibson; and

WHEREAS, Jean Pollard's remarkable success as a columnist and public servant is directly attributable to her reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and her uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Jean Pollard is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Jean Pollard for her honorable and astute service to the good people of Morgan County and Tennessee and salute her unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.